

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-15
OES-07 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 PA-02
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FM AMCONSUL GENOA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, ECON, ELAB, IT

SUBJ: ITALIAN NUCLEAR WORKERS CRITICIZE USG NUCLEAR ENERGY POLICY

SUMMARY

THE RECENT DEMONSTRATIONS BY THE ANTI-NUCLEAR MOVEMENT IN FRANCE AGAINST THE SUPER PHENIX PROJECT HAS ELICITED MORE THAN PASSING INTEREST IN GENOA, HEADQUARTERS FOR IRI-FINMECCANICA'S NEWLY REORGANIZED NUCLEAR SECTOR. NIRA (NUCLEARE ITALIANA REATTORI AVANZATI), WHOSE MERGER WITH THE LARGER ANSALDO MECCANICO NUCLEAR (AMN) WAS ANNOUNCED ON AUGUST 4, IS A PARTICIPANT IN THE FRENCH PROJECT AND THE LEADING ITALIAN COMPANY IN THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE FAST BREEDER REACTOR. (AMN IS A LICENSEE FOR THE GE BWR.) SEVERAL NIRA MIDDLE MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS AND THE COMPANY S COUNCIL OF WORKERS HAVE SEIZED UPON THE MALVILLE INCIDENT TO CRITICIZE PRESIDENT CARTER S POLICY ON NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION AND TO ALLEGE THAT U.S. FINANCING WAS BEHIND THE DEMONSTRATION. THE WORKERS COUNCIL HAS ISSUED A THREE PAGE STATEMENT CRITICAL OF THE PURPORTED GOI DECISION TO BASE ITS ENERGY PROGRAM AROUND U.S. LIGHT WATER REACTOR TECHNOLOGY. THE UNCLASSIFIED

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DOCUMENT WARNS THAT THE CONSEQUENCES OF SOLE DEPENDENCE ON THE U.S. AS A SUPPLIER OF TECHNOLOGY, FINANCING AND SOURCE OF URANIUM MAY NOT LEAD TO ECONOMIC PROGRESS BUT COULD LEAD "TO A LOSS OF CULTURE AND HUMAN VALUES." THE WORKERS DO NOT RULE OUT ENTIRELY A ROLE FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY. THEY SUPPORT A DIVERSIFIED ENERGY PROGRAM FOR ITALY IN WHICH HALF OF THE NEW REACTORS WOULD BE THE HEAVY WATER CANDU DESIGN AND CALL FOR A PUBLIC DEBATE ON THE

ISSUE. SINCE NIRA IS ALSO INVOLVED IN HEAVY WATER REACTOR RESEARCH AND ITS NEW ACQUIRED DIVISION, PMN (PROGETTAZIONI MECCANICHE NUCLEARI), IS LICENSEE FOR THE CANDU REACTOR, ITS EMPLOYEES HAVE ASSUMED A SELF-SERVING POSITION. THE PCI HAS DISSOCIATED ITSELF FROM THIS DOCUMENT AND CRITICIZED THE WORKERS FOR JOINING SIDES WITH THOSE ADVOCATING A "ZERO GROWTH" POLICY

END SUMMARY

1. IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE LOCAL PSI DAILY, IL LAVORO, ING. BRUNO MUSSO, DIRECTOR OF NIRA'S FAST BREEDER DIVISION, AND TWO COLLEAGUES MAINTAINED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S "RIDICULOUS SPEECHES" WERE A PRIMARY CAUSE FOR THE MALVILLE DEMONSTRATION. THE NIRA OFFICIALS ARGUE THAT THE PRESIDENT SEEKS TO PRESERVE THE U.S.'S DOMINANT POSITION AS A SUPPLIER OF TECHNOLOGY AND URANIUM BY RETARDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF FAST BREEDER TECHNOLOGY.

2. IN A THREE PAGE STATEMENT, NIRA'S COUNCIL OF WORKERS SHARES MANAGEMENT'S SENTIMENTS. THE NUCLEAR WORKERS REJECT THE PRESIDENT'S POSITION THAT U.S. POLICY IS TO SAFEGUARD MANKIND FROM NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION. THEY ARGUE THAT THE U.S. PURSUES SUCH A POLICY SOLELY TO PRESERVE U.S. MILITARY AND ECONOMIC HEGEMONY AND TO ENABLE U.S. COMPANIES TO EARN MAXIMUM PROFITS FROM REACTOR SALES. THE WORKERS ACCUSE THE U.S. OF USING ALL TYPES OF PRESSURE AGAINST THOSE COUNTRIES FALLING WITHIN ITS SPHERE OF INFLUENCE TO LIMIT THE CHOICE TO U.S. NUCLEAR ENERGY SYSTEMS. THE MALVILLE DEMONSTRATION IS CITED AS THE TYPE OF INCIDENT THAT THE USG CAN UNCLASSIFIED

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DIRECT AGAINST THOSE COUNTRIES OPPOSED TO ITS POLICIES. THE DOCUMENT VIEWS PRIME MINISTER ANDREOTTI'S RECENT TRIP TO WASHINGTON AS CONFIRMATION THAT ITALY IS ONE OF THOSE "SUBDUED" COUNTRIES AND RECOMMENDS THAT ITALY CHOSE BETWEEN COMPLETE ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC, AND TECHNOLOGICAL SUBJUGATION TO THE U.S. OR EUROPE. AN OVERDEPENDENCE ON U.S. NUCLEAR ENERGY SYSTEMS RISKS "THE LOSS OF CULTURE AND HUMAN VALUES."

3. THE NUCLEAR WORKERS DO NOT ADVOCATE A COMPLETE HALT TO ITALY' NUCLEAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT. THEY WOULD PREFER A POLICY DOWNPLAYING THE DOMINANT U.S. ROLE IN ITALY'S ENERGY PROGRAM AND SUPPORT SELECTION OF THE HEAVY WATER CANDU REACTORS FOR AT LEAST HALF OF THE 12 NUCLEAR CENTERS BEING PLANNED. THIS WOULD BE IN NIRA'S SELF-INTEREST. ITS PMN DIVISION IS LICENSEE FOR THE CANDU, AND NIRA IS DEVELOPING THE CIRENE, THE ITALIAN PROTOTYPE, HEAVY WATER NATURAL URANIUM REACTOR.

4. THE PCI IS CRITICAL OF THE HERESY ON THE PART OF THE NIRA WORKERS' COUNCIL AND DISMISSES THE DOCUMENT AS THE WORK OF A FEW DISGRUNTLED WORKERS NOT ON FERRAGOSTO HOLIDAY. NORTON

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770868/aaaacfnl.tel
Line Count: 114
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 6a58755b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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TAGS: ENRG, ECON, ELAB, IT, US
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